

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MEXICO 09835 221918Z

46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 L-02 H-01 SY-04

DEAE-00 JUSE-00 SNM-02 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-15 /054 W

----- 078972

R 221704Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4907

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 9835

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, CPRS, MX

SUBJECT: POSSIBLY UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY CONCERNING ARRESTED
US CITIZENS

1. THE EMBASSY WISHES TO ALERT DEPARTMENT AND DEA HEAD-
QUARTERS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF AN UNFAVORABLE PRESS
STORY CONCERNING US CITIZENS IMPRISONED IN MEXICO CITY.
STORY MAY APPEAR IN LOS ANGELES TIMES (AND POSSIBLY OTHER
PAPERS) ON AN UNKNOWN DATE, BUT IN FAIRLY NEAR FUTURE.

2. LOCAL LOS ANGELES TIMES REPORTER STAN MEISLER RECENTLY
HAS BEEN INDUSTRIOUSLY INTERVIEWING A NUMBER OF EMBASSY,
CONSULATE AND DEA OFFICERS. HIS INQUIRIES CONCERN US
CITIZENS ARRESTED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT, MOST OF WHOM
ARE CHARGED WITH IMPORTATION OF COCAINE AND FACE LONG
PRISON SENTENCES. ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT PREJUDGE THE
ORIENTATION OF HIS STORY, IT WOULD APPEAR FROM HIS
LINE OF QUESTIONING THAT IT MAY BE CRITICAL OF THE US/
MEXICAN ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM (AT LEAST AS IT CONCERNS
COCAINE SMUGGLING THROUGH MEXICO CITY), AS WELL AS OF DEA
AND THE US EMBASSY AND/OR CONSULATE IN MEXICO CITY.

3. BECAUSE WE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN TEMPERED IN THE FLAME
OF THE LECUMBERRI HUNGER STRIKE AND ATTENDANT CONGRESSIONAL
AND PUBLIC FURORE, WE HOPE TO DEFEND AGAINST THIS CONTINGENCY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MEXICO 09835 221918Z

BY ASSEMBLING STATISTICS ON THE SUBJECT GROUP OF US CITIZENS.

SUCH STATISTICS WILL UNQUESTIONABLY DEMONSTRATE THAT
NEARLY ALL US CITIZENS ARRESTED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT
ARE CHARGED WITH IMPORTATION OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF COCAINE
(AND, INCIDENTALLY, ARE GUILTY BY THEIR OWN ADMISSION).
THIS WOULD AT LEAST HELP DISPEL ERRONEOUS PUBLIC IMPRESSION
THAT THEY ARE HAPLESS YOUNG VICTIMS OF AN UNSAVORY USG/GOM
CONSPIRACY.

4. WE SHALL OF COURSE CONTINUE TO INFORM DEPARTMENT AND
DEA OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THE MEISLER STORY.
BRANDIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DRUG TRAFFIC, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MEXICO09835
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740339-0900
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741120/aaaaaqvq.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUN 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 SEP 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <14 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <22 JUN 2005 by papenddr>; APPROVED <22 JUN 2005 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLY UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY CONCERNING ARRESTED US CITIZENS
TAGS: SNAR, CPRS, MX, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005